

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 FPC-01 H-01

INR-05 INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 AGR-05 /094 W
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R 312106Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3792

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ENRG, ECIN, FR

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FRENCH OFFICIAL ON EC ISSUES,
INCLUDING ENERGY, AFFECTING FRANCE

1. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD AND ECON/COM MIN CALLED ON
BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, ON OCTOBER 30
FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON EC ISSUES AFFECTING FRANCE.

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MOST OF CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED TO LEGAL ISSUES RAISED

BY PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP OF EC COUNTRIES IN NEW ENERGY AGENCY TO BE ESTABLISHED IN OECD. GREENWALD NOTED RECENT OPINION OF COMMISSION THAT INDIVIDUAL EC GOVERNMENTS COULD JOIN ENERGY AGENCY PROVIDED EC ITSELF WAS REPRESENTED. HE ASKED WHETHER FACT THAT EC AS SUCH WOULD BE REPRESENTED IN A BODY WHICH FRANCE ITSELF HAD CHOSEN NOT TO JOIN CREATED PROBLEMS FOR FRANCE AND WHAT POSITION GOF PLANNED TO ADOPT.

2. BRUNET, WHOSE REMARKS ABOUT THE ATTITUDE OF FRANCE'S EC PARTNERS TOWARD PARTICIPATION IN IEP WERE FREQUENTLY DISPARAGING, REPLIED THAT IT WOULD AT THE VERY LEAST CREATE AN INCONGRUOUS SITUATION. HE SAID THE GOF FULLY INTENDED TO GIVE ITS PARTNERS "A BAD CONSCIENCE" ON THIS ISSUE AND MIGHT EVEN ASK THEM TO "ATTACH A RESERVATION" TO THEIR SIGNATURE OF THE IEP (PRESUMABLY A STATEMENT THAT THEY WOULD NOT ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIONS IN THE IEP WHICH WOULD CONFLICT WITH A COMMON ENERGY POLICY). HOWEVER, BRUNET MADE IT CLEAR THAT, IN KEEPING WITH GISCARD'S PROMISE NOT TO BLOCK ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ENERGY AGENCY IN OECD, THE GOF WOULD NOT TRY TO PREVENT ITS PARTNERS FROM JOINING THE AGENCY. HE SAID HE EXPECTED THAT A WAY WOULD BE FOUND AROUND THE "INCONGRUOUS SITUATION."

3. INSTEAD OF TRYING TO KEEP ITS PARTNERS OUT OF THE IEP, BRUNET SAID, THE GOF WAS GOING TO EXPLOIT THEIR EMBARRASSMENT OVER THE INCONGRUITY OF THEIR POSITION BY TRYING TO FORCE THEM, AT THE EUROPEAN SUMMIT MEETING, TO PUT TEETH INTO THE EC'S COMMON ENERGY POLICY. HE NOTED BY WAY OF EXAMPLE THAT FRANCE WAS THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE EC WHICH HAD ADOPTED SERIOUS DEMAND RESTRAINT MEASURES AND HE SAID THAT THE GOF WOULD, INTER ALIA, TRY TO PERSUADE THE EC TO ADOPT A COMMUNITY-WIDE PROGRAM OF DEMAND RESTRAINT. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS NOT VERY HOPEFUL OF SUCCESS. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD OBSERVED THAT, ON THE CONTRARY, THE OTHER EC GOVERNMENTS MIGHT WELL BE RECEPTIVE TO SUCH A PROPOSAL AND SAID IT WAS WORTH TRYING.

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4. THERE WAS ALSO A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF MTN ISSUES. BRUNET AGREED WITH GREENWALD'S STATEMENT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL YEARS THERE WERE NO SERIOUS TRADE DISPUTES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE EC. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT U.S. AND EC DIFFERENCES OVER THE APPROACH TO AGRICULTURE IN THE MTN HAD NARROWED SOMEWHAT IN RECENT MONTHS, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE IN THE WORLD SUPPLY SITUATION.

STONE

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